

**EPHRATA BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 13, 2019**

The regular Ephrata Borough Council meeting was called to order by President Susan Rowe at 7:00 PM on May 13, 2019, in the Council Chambers of the Borough Office, 124 South State Street.

A moment of silence was held which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

In attendance in addition to the President were Vice President Thomas Reinhold, President Pro Tem Melvin Weiler and Council Members Linda Martin, Ricky Ressler, Victor Richard, Gregory Zimmerman, and Mayor Ralph Mowen. Absent from initial roll call was Council Member Timothy Barr who arrived at 8:26 PM.

Also in attendance were Borough Manager D. Robert Thompson, Police Chief William Harvey, Recording Secretary Stephanie Fasnacht, and Borough Solicitor James R. McManus, III, Esq.

The following visitors were present:

Carrie Willetts, 96 Highland Avenue, Ephrata  
Gregory Martin, 1304 Marilyn Avenue, Ephrata  
Teresa Caruthers, 229 Railroad Avenue, Ephrata  
Jim Sandoe, 1181 Joann Avenue, Ephrata  
George DiIlio, 30 Kings Court, Ephrata  
Virginia DiIlio, 30 Kings Court, Ephrata  
John Padora, 920 Maple Street, Ephrata  
Amber Padora, 920 Maple Street, Ephrata  
Mike Eichenlaub, 211 South State Street, Ephrata  
Elizabeth Malarkey, 217 Lincoln Avenue, Ephrata  
Amy Walsh, 115 East Pine Street, Ephrata  
Darryl Gibbs, 241 Railroad Avenue, Ephrata

President Rowe invited Ms. Carrie Willetts, WellSpan Ephrata Community Hospital, Vice President Thomas Reinhold and Police Chief William Harvey to come before Council for a presentation/donation. Ms. Willetts, on behalf of WellSpan ECH, presented a \$32,000 donation to be used for the purchase of a drone for the Ephrata Police Department as well as for the implementation of a bike share program for community use on the Rail Trail. President Rowe extended Council's gratitude and appreciation for the generous donation.

**PROCLAMATION – 2019 NATIONAL PREVENTION WEEK**

Mayor Mowen proclaimed the week of May 12-18 as National Prevention Week advising the focus of this week is to prevent substance use and promote mental health. Mayor Mowen further advised he is calling upon the community to observe this week with compelling programs and events that support this year's theme, "Inspiring Action. Changing Lives."

**PROCLAMATION – 2019 NATIONAL POLICE WEEK**

Mayor Mowen proclaimed the week of May 12-18 as National Police Week and May 15, 2019, as Peace Officers Memorial Day in honor of those peace officers who, through their courageous deeds, have lost their lives or have become disabled in the performance of duty.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Mr. Zimmerman, seconded by Mr. Weiler, and unanimously passed to approve the April 1, 2019, Work Session Minutes, and the April 9, 2019, Regular Meeting Minutes.

**MUNICIPAL MOMENT – OFFICER PAUL MOORE, SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER**

Officer Moore opened his presentation by thanking Council for their support of him and the School Resource Officer program. Officer Moore provided a brief synopsis of his role and responsibilities. Officer Moore advised he is active in eight schools within the Ephrata Area School District being in touch with over 4,000 students as well as over 500 employees.

Officer Moore advised of the following training opportunities and/or services he has provided/provides to the District:

- Bus Driver Training
- Cyber Safety Training (For Both Students and Parents)
- Fire Company Training – Their Role in an Emergency Situation
- Fire Police Training – Their Role in an Emergency Situation

- Bus Accident Training
- Preschool Programs
- Tips 411 & Safe Say Tip Lines
- Investigation of Crimes
- Serves on Suicide Prevention Committee (Partners with WellSpan ECH)
- Runs Crisis Teams (Once a month “What If” Program)
- Oversees Crossing Guards
- Oversees Two Youth Aid Panels
- Implemented Successful Truancy Program
- Oversees “Every 15 Minutes” Program

Officer Moore concluded his presentation by showing a video created by students of this year’s “Every 15 Minutes” Program which focuses on distracted driving with the end result being a fatal vehicle accident involving students. Officer Moore advised the program is run every two years and is shown to 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. Officer Moore further advised the program is student involved as well as community involved (i.e., Ephrata Pioneer Fire Company, WellSpan ECH, Ephrata Ambulance, Stradling Funeral Home and many others). Officer Moore advised the goal of the program is to encourage students to make good decisions.

Upon opening the floor for questions, Ms. Elizabeth Malarkey advised she has worked in schools where this same program was not well received and inquired if there has been any negative feedback received from the parents; in which Officer Moore advised he has not received any negative feedback about the program.

Mayor Mowen expressed his observation of intensity within the students as they watch the series of events unfold before them. Mayor Mowen advised there is a second part of the program, which was not shown at the meeting, that is completed the next day which is extremely emotional and heart wrenching. President Rowe encouraged all to watch the full video of both days’ events which is available on YouTube.

Vice President Reinhold inquired if there has been any discussion of adding sophomores who are of driving age to be able to participate in the program; in which, Officer Moore advised there has not been any discussion to include them at this point in time.

Vice President Reinhold discussed the recent canine search that was conducted at the high school and inquired if a search of this type could be conducted at the middle school; in which, Officer Moore advised the middle school has not been considered at this time. Vice President Reinhold inquired how a search of a student is conducted; in which, Officer Moore advised that student searches are conducted by school administration only. Officer Moore further advised he may be in the room during the search if he is needed or if there is a possible weapon involved.

In conclusion, President Rowe extended her appreciation for Officer Moore’s service to the community.

#### **FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

Elizabeth Malarkey, 217 Lincoln Avenue, Ephrata, referenced the diesel generator proposal and inquired if the matter should be a referendum so that residents can vote on the matter.

Teresa Caruthers, 229 Railroad Avenue, Ephrata, advised she was inspired by a recent meeting she attended in the city of Lancaster regarding the Climate Action Plan with the goal being to decrease the carbon footprint. Ms. Caruthers advised the discussion was very open and transparent which she appreciated. Ms. Caruthers provided a copy of the handouts she received at the meeting to President Rowe who advised she will review the documents and share with Council.

Virginia DiIlio, 30 Kings Court, Ephrata, referenced the diesel generator proposal and advised that Father John McLoughlin from Our Mother of Perpetual Help is extremely upset he was not contacted regarding this matter due to the proposed location being next to the church/school. Ms. DiIlio advised Father John also expressed his concerns over the diesel fumes, noise and possible dangers of the generator. Ms. DiIlio concluded her comments by requesting Council to postpone their voting on the matter.

Darryl Gibbs, 241 Railroad Avenue, Ephrata, referenced the diesel generator proposal and advised he moved to this area due to his health issues. Mr. Gibbs concluded his comments by stating, “... clean air is a gift” and requested Council to postpone their voting on the matter.

Jim Sandoe, 1181 Joann Avenue, Ephrata, referenced the diesel generator proposal and requested Council to consider the children and adults within the community as this will worsen our air quality. Mr. Sandoe concluded his comments by requesting Council to postpone their voting on the matter and allow him to bring experts in to speak with them.

John Padora, 920 Maple Street, Clay Township, referenced the diesel generator proposal and advised although he does not live in the Borough, his children attend the Ephrata Area School District and requested Council to consider the safety of the children. Mr. Padora concluded his comments by requesting Council to postpone their voting on the matter.

After a brief time allotted for additional citizen comments and with no one in attendance coming forward, it was moved by Vice President Reinhold, seconded by Mr. Ressler, and unanimously passed that the public comments section of the meeting be closed until the end of tonight's agenda.

### **ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS**

After brief clarifications regarding submitted community organization reports, it was moved by Ms. Martin, seconded by Mr. Ressler, and unanimously passed to approve Acceptance of Reports consisting of the following documents:

#### **Budget and Finance Committee**

The Budget & Finance Committee met on April 22, 2019 and discussed the following:

#### **Action Items:**

1. None

#### **Discussion Items:**

1. The Committee discussed the article provided by Penny Talbot of the Library. The article reviews the difficulties that libraries face in finding sufficient funding and possible alternatives such as a library tax. Penny also asked if the library could keep the donations that are collected during Concerts by the Creek. These donations are collected to help offset the cost of the concerts, which is a Borough program. Penny helps to schedule the artists in her role on the Concerts by the Creek Committee, not as a library employee. No further action is required.
2. The Staff provided a copy of the Borough audit for 2018 in the packet. There were no findings and no further action is required.
3. The Committee had requested that all McManus invoices be included in the packet each month. Staff provided a copy of the invoice dated 4/1/19. Staff also included a sample of a spreadsheet that can be completed monthly categorizing the items that are in the invoice. The Committee approved of the format to be used for all future invoices. President Rowe will also review this with Mr. Richard to see if he is in agreement since he raised the question originally.
4. The Staff reviewed the current credit card fee information obtained from meeting with Springbrook. Ms. Martin would like us to include information in our billing designed to encourage our customers to sign up for monthly ACH payments. Staff will discuss how to implement the customer education and will continue to pursue the option of moving the credit card fees to customer pay vs. Borough pay.
5. Staff provided the Check and ACH registers to the Committee for March to date. No further action is required.

#### **Development Activities Committee**

The Development Activities Committee met on March 25, 2019 and discussed the following:

#### **Action Items:**

1. The Committee reviewed a draft lease for the Ephrata Recreation Center. The property is currently owner by the Ephrata Borough Authority (EBA). The Borough has guaranteed the Rec Center debt with no collateral. Is there interest from Council in pursuing having EBA transfer ownership to Ephrata Borough. Only pieces of a lease from 1976 can be found. A new lease is necessary. Mr. Thompson and Solicitor McManus reviewed the notable sections of the lease. The proposed lease doesn't require a lease payment until the Rec's repayment

agreement is satisfied in 2021. The next five year period requires a lease payment of \$1,000 per month adjusted annually by the CPI. There are three renewal periods of five years each. The Committee is recommending that Council authorize the staff to develop documents to transfer the property from the Ephrata Borough Authority to Ephrata Borough conditioned upon the EBA offering the property to the Borough and Ephrata Borough accepting the offer. The Committee is also recommending that Borough Council accept the lease document subject to the Rec Center approval at the May Council meeting.

2. The Committee reviewed a request from WellSpan Ephrata Community Hospital to release financial security for the storm water improvements associated with the construction of a parking lot located at 166 Martin Avenue. The improvements have been inspected and approved. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council release the remaining amount of \$3,528.45 at the May meeting. This will appear on the consent agenda.
3. The committee reviewed a Subdivision and Land Development Agreement for Weaverland Mennonite (Lincoln Christian Homes). The amount of the agreement is \$116,361.63. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council authorize the Council President and Secretary to execute the Subdivision and Land Development Agreement with the developer, Weaverland Mennonite Homes. This will appear on the May Consent Agenda.
4. The Committee reviewed a Stormwater Operation and Maintenance Agreement for the proposed stormwater improvements associated with the land development plan for Weaverland Mennonite (Lincoln Christian Homes). The Committee will recommend that Borough Council authorize the Council President and Secretary to execute an Operation and Maintenance Agreement with the developer, Weaverland Mennonite Homes. This will appear on the May Consent Agenda.

#### **Discussion Items:**

1. The Committee discussed a request from a resident to look into obtaining a Pennsylvania Sustainable Community Certification. This is a voluntary certification that a municipality can seek to show their commitment to sustainable initiatives. There is no cost for the program. It would involve staff time to work towards improving sustainable initiatives. After some discussion the Committee didn't feel it was necessary to pursue it at this time. No further action required.
2. The staff provided an Economic Development update. The committees continue to work on prioritizing the goals from the Strategic Plan and forming subcommittees. The Committee agreed to remove this as a standing item. The staff will update the committee as notable economic development issues arise.
3. There were no decisions from the April Zoning Hearing Board meeting.
4. There are no new applications for the May Zoning Hearing Board meeting.

#### **Public Safety Committee**

The Public Safety Committee met on April 15, 2019 and discussed the following:

#### **Action Items:**

1. **Police Services Agreement for Ephrata Township** - Chief Harvey and B. Thompson reported that a tentative agreement has been reached with Ephrata Township for policing services. An exemplary ordinance was shown for the extension of police services through December 31, 2024. **Unanimously approved by Committee - Action by Borough Council.**
2. **Disposition of Assets** – Chief Harvey briefed on the disposition of assets - fourteen (14) Mossberg shotguns on a trade-in for new shotguns. Amount of trade-in is \$7,259.98. **Unanimously approved by Committee - Action by Borough Council.**

#### **Discussion Items:**

1. **Comp-stat (March 2019)** – Chief Harvey briefed on first quarter crimes - *Received for Informational Purposes Only*
2. **EMC Report (March 2019)** – Chief Harvey briefed on the Emergency Management report - *Received for Informational Purposes Only*

#### **Old Business:**

1. **Fire Service Feasibility Study** – Chief Harvey and B. Thompson briefed on progress of reviewing other studies, products and meetings. Staff is awaiting a proposal from one firm. There was discussion with no action at this time. - *Received for Informational Purposes Only*

### **Municipal Enterprises Committee**

The Municipal Enterprises Committee met on April 15, 2019 and discussed the following:

#### **Action Items:**

1. The Committee discussed extending the refuse and recycling contract with Eagle Disposal by accepting the year 4 and year 5 options subject to the execution of a change order as follows:
  - a. Increasing the number of allowable refuse containers from 3 to 4.
  - b. Agreeing to pay for disposal costs (tipping fees) for recyclable materials at rates established by the Lancaster County Solid Waste Authority.

In addition the Committee will recommend that the Borough approve the waiver authorizing the contractor to haul single stream recyclable materials from Ephrata Borough to Eagle's transfer facility to be hauled to Penn Waste Recycle Processing Facility.

The Committee will recommend that Borough Council approve both the change order and waiver at their May 13, 2019 meeting.

2. The Committee heard a presentation by Erin Shealy from GDS Associates regarding the American Municipal Power (AMP) Pennsylvania Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engine (RICE) Peaking Project. The project, which will be owned and operated by AMP, proposes to install 5,400 kW of diesel generation to reduce the Borough's coincident peaks and thus reduce transmission and capacity costs. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council enact an ordinance authorizing the Borough Manager to execute any and all documents necessary for the implementation of this project subject to a form acceptable to the Borough's energy solicitor McNeese Wallace and Nurrick.

#### **Discussion Items:**

1. The Committee discussed a request from a resident to consider amending the Borough's Technical Requirements for Behind the Meter Generation by changing the rate at which the Borough reimburses for the allowable annual true-up energy received by the Borough from the base power supply cost to the energy rate. The Committee will not make any recommendations at this time but will keep this item as an old business item on their committee agenda.
2. The Committee was advised by Borough Manager Thompson that the staff is working on a recommendation regarding the Green Corridor project and expects to have that recommendation prepared for the May 20 committee meeting. No further action is required at this time.
3. Borough Manager Thompson provided a status report for the solar project. All equipment is expected to be delivered by the first week in April. It will be installed by week 2 of April and then PPL final inspection will be requested. It is expected to be operational in May.
4. The Committee reviewed the January and February 2019 minutes of the AMP Board of Directors meetings.

### **Community Services Committee**

The Community Services Committee met on April 22, 2019 and discussed the following:

#### **Action Items:**

1. The Committee reviewed the request from Mainspring for the Borough to sponsor a planter. All Committee members agreed so they are recommending approval at the May Council meeting.
2. The Committee reviewed the request from Jim Summers to hold 2 Luau's at the pool this summer. The events will be for all members 21+ and will be held from 6-8:30pm. The dates for the events have not yet been selected. The Committee will recommend approval at the May Council meeting.

**Discussion Items:**

1. The Committee discussed the Ephrata Community Garden Project where there are a total of 48 plots available to rent. Last year 2/3<sup>rd</sup> were rented. The Ephrata Recreation Center has set aside six plots for use by the HUB and EASS. The food from those six plots will benefit the EASS local food bank. This is informational only. No further action at this time.
2. The Committee discussed the Blue Ridge Communications request to provide free Wi-Fi at the Pool and Grater Park. In order to use the Wi-Fi, individuals will have to use the Blue Ridge app. No further action at this time.

**Old Business:**

1. Jim Summers has requested a written proposal from Green Mountain for the project. A Proposal from Lititz Bikeworks has already been received. Bob Thompson will look into how much will be needed to build a storage shed. WellSpan is donating money for the program and would like to have their logo on the bikes. Knead It Massage & Bodyworks is donating two bike pumps for the project. No further action at this time.

**Personnel Committee**

The Personnel Committee met on April 8, 2019 and discussed the following:

**Action Items:**

1. The Committee reviewed and discussed the revisions to the Committee Meeting Guidelines as suggested at the previous meeting. The Committee was fine with all changes; however an additional minor adjustment was requested for §6B. Rowe read the revised paragraph several times until the Committee was satisfied with the language. If Council has not suggested modifications when the item is discussed at the May 6 Work Session, the Committee will request approval of the Committee Meeting Guidelines at the May 13 meeting.
2. The Committee reviewed the Guidelines for Employee Evaluations. This document remained unchanged since it was discussed in March. The Committee again believes the document is thorough and no additional revisions are necessary. This document will be presented at the May 6 Work Session and if full Council does not desire any changes, the Committee will request approval of the Guidelines for Employee Evaluations at the May 13 meeting.

Chairman Reinhold called a brief recess so the Committee could meet in Executive Session. Chairman Reinhold reconvened the meeting.

**Discussion Items:**

1. President Rowe presented full evaluation forms for the positions of Borough Manager and Chief of Police. There are two versions of each; one for Council evaluations of the positions and one for a self-evaluation to be completed by the employee. The Committee was satisfied with the forms but would like to discuss them again at the next meeting. Rowe will also be working on an update to the Performance Management Process (PMP) form that will be used solely by the Personnel Committee.
2. President Rowe explained the revisions made to the Retreat Agenda and the finalized plans for the Retreat. The Committee was satisfied with the changes. Rowe explained she promised to email a copy to Mr. Knittel at the PSAB when it was finalized. Rowe also brought up her intention to share the agenda and the possible topics for future workshops with all attendees and ask them to consider topics for future guideline and procedure documents in preparation for the Retreat. The Committee was fine with the suggestions and instructed her to proceed.
3. President Rowe shared the most recent revisions of the topics for workshops. The Committee had no additions or revisions to the document.
4. The Committee discussed the possibility of a quarterly meeting with varied Borough Managers to gauge if there are any topics of concern of which they should be made aware. This is a PSAB suggestion. The Committee was receptive but unsure if such a meeting should be scheduled on a regular basis. This will be discussed further next month.
5. Key card access to Borough Hall was discussed. Presently, the key cards issued to members of Council provide access to the building front doors, the Council Chambers and the large conference room. There is no access to the small room provided for use to Council. Rowe reminded newer members there previously was a small meeting area for use by Borough

Council on the second floor; key card access to that area (PD lobby and the room) was available 24/7 until the room was rented to the Probation Office. When the Council meeting room was moved to the first floor, the key card access to the second floor was removed. Council key cards worked on the door leading from the conference room to the Council meeting room only after 6:00 PM; however, the room is too small to actually use for meetings. When the electronic key access was upgraded, Council access via the conference room was completely removed. The Committee briefly debated if there was a desire to request full access. Rowe mentioned there may be reasons to not allow access to some areas. This topic will be discussed at a future meeting.

**Old Business:**

1. The item of planning orientations for new Council members and a reorientation for current Council members was not discussed but will be placed on the next agenda.

**NEW BUSINESS ITEMS**

**Consent Agenda**

Vice President Reinhold advised the items on tonight’s consent agenda have been discussed in detail at their respective committee meetings and were brought forward for additional discussion at last week’s Work Session. These items are considered routine in nature and voted upon under one umbrella. These items are not open for discussion unless an individual or Council Member wishes to have the item removed from the consent agenda. If an item is removed it will be handed over to the Committee under which it was originally discussed during the standing committee recommendations.

1. That Borough Council release the remaining financial security of \$3,528.45 for stormwater improvements for the WellSpan Ephrata Community Hospitals parking lot for located at 166 Martin Avenue. (Development Activities)
2. That Borough Council authorize the Council President and Secretary to execute the Subdivision and Land Development Agreement with Weaverland Mennonite Homes in the amount of \$116,361.63. (Development Activities)
3. That Borough Council authorize the Council President and Secretary to execute a Stormwater Operation and Maintenance Agreement with Weaverland Mennonite Homes. (Development Activities)

It was moved by Mr. Richard, seconded by Mr. Weiler, and unanimously passed that Borough Council adopt, authorize and/or approve/conditionally approve the items listed on the Consent Agenda.

**STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Public Safety Committee**

It was moved by Mr. Ressler, seconded by Mr. Weiler, and unanimously passed via roll call vote that Borough Council enact Ordinance No. 1548, enacting an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement authorizing the Borough of Ephrata, through its Police Department, to perform law enforcement functions within Ephrata Township through December 31, 2024.

It was moved by Mr. Ressler, seconded by Mr. Richard, and unanimously passed that Borough Council approve the disposition of assets of fourteen (14) Mossberg shotguns on a trade-in for new shotguns. Amount of trade-in is \$7,259.98.

It was moved by Mr. Ressler, seconded by Mr. Weiler, and unanimously passed that Borough Council accepts the terms and conditions of the tentative agreement with West Cocalico Township to extend their agreement for policing services through December 31, 2025 per the proposal issued by the Borough dated May 2, 2019 and Accepted by the Township dated May 2, 2019, and to authorize the preparation of an Ordinance and contract to be adopted and executed by Council.

It was moved by Mr. Ressler, seconded by Mr. Richard, and unanimously passed that Borough Council accepts the terms and conditions of the tentative agreement with Adamstown Borough to extend their agreement for policing services through December 31, 2025 per the proposal issued by the Borough dated May 2, 2019 and Accepted by the Adamstown Borough dated May 7, 2019, and to authorize the preparation of an Ordinance and contract to be adopted and executed by Council.

It was moved by Mr. Ressler, seconded by Mr. Weiler, and unanimously passed that Borough Council adopt Resolution 2019-7 approving the Rules and Regulations of the Civil Service Commission of the Borough of Ephrata.

#### **Municipal Enterprise Committee**

It was moved by Mr. Richard, seconded by Vice President Reinhold, and unanimously passed that Borough Council adopt Resolution 2019-8 to renew, with Eagle Disposal of Pennsylvania, Inc., a contract to remove by vehicle contract waste and recyclable materials, execute a change order with respect to the contract and approve a waiver authorizing the hauling of recyclable materials to an alternate recycle processing facility.

It was moved by Mr. Richard, seconded by Vice President Reinhold, and passed via roll call vote with five yeas by Messrs. Reinhold, Richard, Weiler, Zimmerman and Ms. Martin and two nays from Mr. Ressler and President Rowe that Borough Council adopt Resolution 2019-9 authorizing the Borough Manager to execute a power sales contract with American Municipal Power Inc., and taking other actions in connection therewith regarding the participation in the AMP Pennsylvania R.I.C.E. Peaking Project.

It was moved by Mr. Richard, seconded by Vice President Reinhold, and unanimously passed that Borough Council approve the revised Municipal Enterprises Committee Report – APRIL 8, 2019.

#### **Community Services Committee**

It was moved by Ms. Martin, seconded by Mr. Ressler, and unanimously passed via roll call vote that Borough Council authorize the expenditure of \$275 to sponsor a planter along Main Street per the request from Mainspring of Ephrata dated March 22, 2019

It was moved by Ms. Martin, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman, and passed via roll call vote with six yeas by Messrs. Reinhold, Richard, Ressler, Zimmerman, Ms. Martin and President Rowe and one nay by Mr. Weiler that Borough Council approve the request from the Ephrata Recreation Center to hold two members only, over 21 years of age, BYOB Luau events at the Community Pool from 6:30-8:30 pm with dates to be determined.

It was moved by Ms. Martin, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman, and unanimously passed via roll call vote that Borough Council ratify the action of the Borough Manager whereby he authorized an addendum to a plaster contract with The Spa & Pool Place of Willow Street in the amount of \$9,400 to repair additional cracks in the competition pool.

#### **Personnel Committee**

It was moved by Vice President Reinhold, seconded by Mr. Ressler, and unanimously passed that Borough Council approve the Ephrata Borough Council Committee Meeting Guidelines as prepared by the Personnel Committee April 8, 2019.

It was moved by Vice President Reinhold, seconded by Ms. Martin, and unanimously passed that Borough Council approve the Ephrata Borough Council Committee Guidelines for Employee Evaluations as revised by the Personnel Committee April 8, 2019.

#### **APPROVAL OF CHECKS 37701 THROUGH 37998 AND THE ACH REGISTER DATED MAY 2, 2019**

It was moved by Mr. Richard, seconded by Ms. Martin, and unanimously passed that Borough Council ratify the payment of bills performed by the staff since the last regular Council meeting in the aggregate amount of \$912,780.94.

#### **SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

Jim Sandoe, 1181 Joann Avenue, Ephrata, advised Council as a result of their vote regarding the diesel generator project, he will file action with the State Auditor General's Office to conduct a full review of the project with the irregularities that have been pointed out and request he study this motion before it can be approved by the Council.

Teresa Caruthers, 229 Railroad Avenue, Ephrata, recommended that Council members conduct an individual audit of their own carbon footprint to see if there are any areas that could be areas where efficiencies could be improved upon. Ms. Caruthers stated, "... the best energy to have is the energy you don't use or need." Ms. Caruthers further advised the old buildings throughout the town need to be "tightened up" and improved with efficiency. Ms. Caruthers advised other areas that could be looked at include: Are the best street lights being used? What is the footprint

of our vehicles and treatment plants? Are there any efficiencies that could be developed to decrease the energy needs of the municipality?

After a brief time allotted for additional citizen comments, President Rowe closed the public comments portion of the meeting.

#### **DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Zimmerman inquired if there is a possibility of adding solar-activated flashing crossing signs to roadways/crosswalks where the Rail Trail crosses (Fulton and Main Streets); in which, Mr. Thompson advised there are no plans in place to do so at this time. President Rowe requested this topic be added for further discussion at an upcoming Highway Committee meeting.

Ms. Martin advised she would like to recognize the Community Garden Committee members present at this evening's meeting. Ms. Martin further advised that committee members, along with WGAL's assistance from their community service members, created 14 raised beds to plant and grow vegetables to be donated to the Ephrata Area Social Services' Food Pantry for distribution to the community. Ms. Martin further advised volunteers are being sought to lead cooking classes and share recipes with recipients of the produce and fruit.

Ms. Martin advised the first "Party on the Plaza" event is being held on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> with the addition of markets being added for June's event.

Vice President Reinhold thanked those in attendance for coming to tonight's meeting. Vice President Reinhold advised that although there are differing views and the vote may have not gone the way they may have liked, he appreciated their comments. Vice President Reinhold inquired as to how much is Ephrata looking to increase our carbon footprint with the implementation of the program; in which, Mr. Sandoe advised Ephrata has not yet conducted a study. Vice President Reinhold further advised it is listed in the report there are 8,760 hours over the course of the year and it is his understanding, "... we're talking about 50 hours which is less than 1% over the course of the year." Vice President Rowe further stated, "... he would like to think that AMP would never guide us into something that is going to make the community worse." Vice President Reinhold concluded his comments by stating, "... we'll see what the Auditor General has to say."

Vice President Reinhold advised there is a Personnel Committee meeting being held within 10-15 minutes following the conclusion of tonight's Borough Council meeting.

Mayor Mowen advised it is his practice while attending the interviews of potential recipients of the Hibshman Scholarship, to ask the candidates what improvements they would like to see happen within the community. Mayor Mowen advised some of the suggestions included a dog park; "Adopt a Highway" or "Adopt a Street"; a cleanup day in the park; a community work day; and playground equipment for children with disabilities.

Mayor Mowen advised a resident approached him to discuss the deteriorating conditions of the plants in Borough Hall. Mayor Mowen advised he feels this does not make a good impression for individuals visiting Borough Hall. Mayor Mowen concluded his comments by stating, "... the plants are benefit ... they enhance the lobby ... let's get them to where people can see ... let's get them taken care of ... let's get rid of the dead ones in the lobby and make our Borough Hall look presentable."

Jim Sandoe, 1181 Joann Avenue, Ephrata, commented that the Sierra Club may be able to provide assistance with the park and creek cleanup. George Dillio, 30 Kings Court, Ephrata, advised the Lancaster County Conservancy is another avenue for assistance as well.

Mr. Barr, in referencing the diesel generators, inquired as to the diesel exhaust system itself; at which time, President Rowe advised the matter was voted on by Council members prior to his arrival. In answering Mr. Barr's inquiry, Mr. Thompson advised the specifics of the emissions are unknown at this point in time. Mr. Thompson further advised he is told the units are the most advanced for emissions that are available for the wholesale market.

President Rowe expressed her gratitude to all citizens who attended tonight's meeting further advising she appreciates seeing faces in the audience as this lets Council know that residents do care about their community.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mr. Barr, seconded by Ms. Martin, and unanimously passed that Borough Council adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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D. Robert Thompson, Secretary